

Russian 1875 Ekaterina II 2-kopeck piece

Humphrey, Caroline M.

1921

[Mrs. Watts S. Humphrey]

[Saginaw, MI]

MRS. WATTS S. HUMPHREY
945 GENESEE AVENUE
SAGINAW, MICHIGAN

December 2, 1921.

Mr. Howland Wood,
New York City,

Dear Sir; —

I am venturing to return the enclosed coin to you to ask for further information regarding it. There are a number of very intelligent people who have a special reason for wanting all possible information regarding it.

I had it with me when I went to one of the large cities of this section, a week ago. I took it to the

Museum, where it was examined
carefully. But no one was expert
in numismatics, & the Curator recom-
mended me to your Society as the
most learned in this Country. When
I told him you had given your
opinion, he still said to ask you
for further information.

You may notice that the coin has
been partially cleaned. You are
quite at liberty to ^{do} what you
choose to make your examination.

I specially hope you will notice
the tiny letters E M on one side.

Is it possible that they really be-
long on the coin, & if so, what is
their significance.

2.

MRS. WATTS S. HUMPHREY

945 GENESEE AVENUE

SAGINAW, MICHIGAN

If they are not of the original coinage, do you think they were stamped on later or not?

There is a remarkable tale connected with the coin, & the validity or fraud of those letters has a serious significance.

If it is possible to easily secure one, I should be very glad to have a duplicate of this coin. Would it be possible for you to get me one at a nominal figure?

If you have any interest or curiosity regarding our

persistence, I shall gladly tell
you the story connected with this
coin, and you will realize our
determination to learn all we
can regarding it.

Hoping that I am not asking
too much of you,

I am,

Very truly yours,
(Mrs. Watts S.) Caroline M. Humphrey.

Ekaterinenburg, mint

Time of Alex II

December 13th, 1921

Mrs. Watts S. Humphrey
945 Genesee Avenue
Saginaw, Mich.

Dear Madam:

Your letter of December 2nd reached me while on Jnny duty, and I have not had the time to answer until now.

I am enclosing a rubbing of a 2-kopek piece which you have. The date is, however, 1875. We do not bother to collect all dates as long as we have the type or sufficient examples to show the duration of the coinage. The small E M is for Ekaterinburg Mint, and by the date was struck during the reign of Alexander II. We have no records to show whether the year 1876 is rare or not but we have not any reason to believe that it is. The 2-kopek piece of this type is not in the least rare.

The small letters E M are a part of the coin and were not put on afterwards. Those struck in other Mints would have different letters. As a matter of fact, these struck from the Ekaterinburg and St. Petersburg Mints are the most plentiful.

I am interested in your remarkable tale concerning this piece, and if you care to inform me I would be very glad to hear it.

The next time I am in a dealer's shop, I will try to get a piece for you.

Very truly yours,

Curator

HW/E
Enc.